

of the gas and having characteristics in which first and second peak absorbencies exist in a visible light wavelength range, a wavelength of a first peak absorbency has a value within a range of 550 to 620 nanometers and corresponds to the wavelength of the light emission of the gas, and a wavelength of a second peak absorbency has a value within a range of 500 to 550 nanometers and corresponds to a wavelength of the fluorescent material emitting green color.

4. (AS TWICE AMENDED HEREIN) A gas-discharge display apparatus according to claim 3, comprising:

an optical filter having characteristics in which first and second peak absorbencies exist in the visible light wavelength range, a transmittance T_{585} at a wavelength of 585 nanometers is smaller than each of a transmittance T_{450} at a wavelength of 450 nanometers, a transmittance T_{620} at a wavelength of 620 nanometers, and a transmittance T_{525} at a wavelength of 525 nanometers is smaller than a transmittance T_{450} at a wavelength of 450 nanometers.

7. (AS TWICE AMENDED HEREIN) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the optical filter comprises a component separate from a display device having the gas discharge space therein, and is disposed in front of the display device.

9. (AS TWICE AMENDED HEREIN) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the optical filter is in contact with the front surface of a transparent substrate comprising the display screen.

10. (AS TWICE AMENDED HEREIN) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the optical filter comprises an organic resin in which a substance absorbing light of a specific wavelength is dispersed.

11. (AS TWICE AMENDED HEREIN) The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a non-glare layer is disposed in front of the optical filter.

12. (AS TWICE AMENDED HEREIN) A gas-discharge display apparatus utilizing at least one of neon and helium gases to generate a gas discharge for exciting a fluorescent material emitting red color, a fluorescent material emitting green color and a fluorescent material emitting blue color to display a color image on a display screen thereof, comprising:

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an optical filter covering the entire screen and disposed in front of a gas discharge space, selectively absorbing light having a wavelength equal to that of light emission of the gas, and having characteristics in which first and second peak absorbencies exist in a visible light wavelength range, a wavelength of a first peak absorbency has a value within a range of 580 to 600 nanometers and corresponds to the wavelength of the light emission of the gas, a wavelength of a second peak absorbency has a value within the range of 500 to 550 nanometers and corresponds to a wavelength of the fluorescent material emitting green color, a transmittance of the optical filter at the first peak absorbency is smaller than 0.5 times an average transmittance in a blue wavelength range, and an average transmittance in a green wavelength range is larger than a transmittance at a first peak absorbency and is smaller than an average transmittance in the blue wavelength range.

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2 and 5 are canceled, without prejudice.

Claim 3 has been amended to clarify salient features of the invention, claim 4 has been amended to a dependent form, now depending from claim 3, and claim 12 has been amended to clarify salient features of the invention. Claims 7, 9, 10, and 11 are amended to depend from claim 3. No new matter is presented and, accordingly, approval and entry of the foregoing claim amendments are respectfully requested.

PAGES 2-3 OF THE ACTION: REJECTION OF CLAIM 3 FOR ANTICIPATION UNDER 35 USC § 102(e) BY OSAWA ET AL. (USP 5,892,492)

PAGES 3-7 OF THE ACTION: REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 2, AND 4-18 FOR OBVIOUSNESS UNDER 35 USC § 103(a) OVER OSAWA ET AL. (USP '492) IN VIEW OF MATSUDA ET AL. (USP 5,218,268)

Inasmuch as both rejections are dependent on the applicability of the primary reference to Osawa et al., it is deemed sufficient to address that reference, solely, in traversing the above rejections.

Osawa et al. *USP 5,892,492) is silent with regard to characteristics of an optical filter as recited in each of independent claims 3 and 12. According to Osawa et al., a second dip of transmittance characteristics of a wave band selecting filter 11 is positioned between an